GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:530
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
WATER SCARCITY IN ORISSA
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether experts have pointed out that Orissa might face severe water scarcity in coming future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (d) Central Water Commission during 1975-82 had taken up detailed drought studies for 99 districts in the country which were identified as drought prone either by the Irrigation Commission, 1972 o r National Commission on Agriculture, 1976 or on the suggestions of some of the concerned State Governments. Out of 99 drought prone districts, there are two drought prone districts viz. Phulbani and Kalahandi in Orissa.

(e) A drought Contingency Plan has been formulated and circulated by Ministry of Agriculture to all concerned State Governments including Orissa for taking necessary steps. The position is being regularly reviewed. An amount of Rs.41.05 crores has already been released out of Central Scheme of Calamity Relief Fund during the current year (2000- 2001).